

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

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1. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

2. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data that has been entered;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

3. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

AI means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have ~~this~~ the transmission information added ~~to it~~ thereto;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

✓ 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

A1 6. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data representing an image that has been read;

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

7. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data that has been entered;

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

8. (Currently Amended) An image communication method ~~having~~ comprising:

a reading step₁ of reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

a storage step₂ of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

a transmitting step₃ of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory; and

AI the method further including a an adding step₄ of adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data after the said reading step and before the said storage step.

9. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have this the transmission information added ~~to it~~ thereto;

compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

✓ 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

adding transmission information for a header or footer onto image data representing an image that has been read;

AI compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

12. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted;

means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have ~~this~~ the transmission information added ~~to it~~ thereto;

means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory.

✓ 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data;

AI means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data.

17. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

18. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus
comprising:

means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding
on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been
stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides,
some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

19. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus
comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data
representing the image in a buffer;

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed
area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been
extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a
header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been
stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides,
some of the image data with data relating to transmission information, ~~this data having~~

which has been compressed according to a compression format identical ~~with that~~ to the
compression format of the image data, and transmitting this image data.

✓ 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus

comprising:

AI means for reading an image and generating image data representing
the image;

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that
is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been
stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides,
some of the image data with data relating to transmission information, ~~this data having~~
which has been compressed according to a compression format identical with ~~that~~ the
compression format of the image data, and transmitting this image data without expanding
or compressing ~~it~~ the image data.

22. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising

the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker
that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

23. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

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compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

24. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer;

extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

storing the compressed image data in memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

✓ 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information;

storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it.

27. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer.

28. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered:

AI means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information for a header or footer.

29. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data:

means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image;

means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information.

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√ 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data:

means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer;

means for storing the compressed image data in a memory; and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it.
